



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Kevin Tabor

**Application No.:** 10/001,517

**Confirmation No.:** 3249

**Filed:** October 25, 2001

**For:** AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING  
EQUIPMENT AND PROCESS FOR  
ASSEMBLY OF ORDERED OPTIC FIBER  
ARRAYS

**Group:** 1731

**Examiner:** Colaiani, Michael

**Our File:** OIC-PT010

**Date:** September 2, 2003

**REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This reply is respectfully submitted in response to the office action, dated July 1, 2003, for the above-identified application in which the Examiner set a one month shortened statutory period for response which expired on August 1, 2003. Accordingly, a one month petition for an extension of time up through September 2, 2003 (September 1<sup>st</sup> being Labor Day) is respectfully submitted herewith. Entry of the following reply, without prejudice or disclaimer, is respectfully requested.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application. The Examiner has required restriction of this application and has grouped the claims as follows: Group I (i.e., claims 1-8), Group II (i.e., claims 9-19), and Group III (i.e., claim 20). Applicant respectfully elects with traverse the claims of Group I (i.e., claims 1-8) for examination.

The MPEP sets forth that “[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.” MPEP § 803. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of Groups II and III should be examined together with the claims of Group I since a search for the subject matter of the claims of Groups II and III must be made in order to perform a thorough search of the prior art for the subject matter of the claims of Group I.

Applicant respectfully submits that the search and examination of the subject matter of the claims of Groups I, II, and III does not increase the burden on the Examiner relative to only searching and examining the subject matter of the claims of Group I. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider this restriction requirement and together examine the claims of Group I, II, and III.

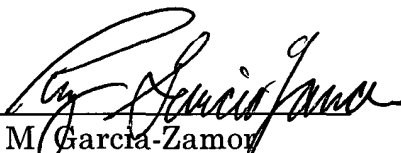
**Applicant: Kevin Tabor**  
**Application No.: 10/001,517**

If the Examiner believes that any formal matters for this application need to be addressed, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned, by telephone, at the Examiner's convenience.

Prompt examination on the merits of the claims of Groups I, II, and III is respectfully solicited.

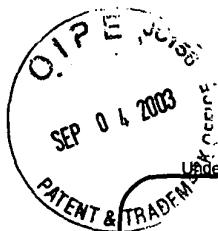
Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Tabor

By   
Ruy M. Garcia-Zamor  
Registration No. 44,117  
(215) 568-6400

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.  
United Plaza, Suite 1600  
30 South 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

RGZ/djw



1731

1731. \$ ✓

PTO/SB/21 (05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995: no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/001,517
	Filing Date	October 25, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Kevin Tabor
	Art Unit	1731
	Examiner Name	Colaianne, Michael
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	OIC-PT010

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	PTO-2038 Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Ruy M. Garcia-Zamor Reg. No. 44,117
Signature	<i>Ruy Garcia-Zamor</i>
Date	September 2, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.	
Typed or printed name	Ruy M. Garcia-Zamor
Signature	<i>Ruy Garcia-Zamor</i>
Date	September 2, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.